



CALPEEK

CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK

P.O. BOX 1468, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90213 (310) 659-0205
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VOL. XIV
No. 21

MAY 25, 1992

CAMPAIGN '92: UPDATE ON KEY PRIMARY RACES.

Editor's note: There is ONE week to go before the June 2nd primary. Here is our update on House & Legislative primaries. But first a few observations...

- **ABSENTEE BALLOTS** - Keep your eyes on the early returns on primary night. Many of the tight primaries will be decided by absentee voters. This is especially true in a number of GOP congressional and CA Assembly races. How many voters are casting absentee ballots? According to CA Sec. of State March Fong Eu, 18.4% in the last election in November of 1990...

- **MONEY IS TIGHT** - Is it ever. Candidates for house, legislative and local offices are having a VERY difficult time raising money. Recession blues...

- **WILSON VS. HARDLINERS** - The battle between GOP Gov. Pete Wilson and hardline conservatives continues to intensify. The warfare is restricted to the CA Assembly, where CALPEEK counts at least 16 primaries where Wilsonites are battling hardliners. SAN DIEGO is the focal point of the warfare...

- **LOW VOTER TURNOUT** - Best guess is that the turnout will be VERY LOW for both Demos and Republicans. Why? GOP presidential contender Pat Buchanan has all but faded from view and ditto on the Demo side where former Gov. Jerry Brown has vanished. Bottomline: no excitement, low turnout...

- **NO TV COVERAGE IN L.A.** - Nice of L.A. Times Calendar reporter Steve Weinstein to notice the lack of U.S. Senate coverage on local TV. KCAL-TV's Josh Mankiewicz is singled out for praise in the Calendar story. Problem is that it's really a LACK OF TOTAL political coverage, as CALPEEK has pointed out numerous times. The only credible TV

political coverage in L.A. is supplied by Century Cable TV...

PRIMARY BATTLES

- **7TH A.D.** - This OPEN assembly district leans Democratic, so Goper Janet Nicholas must wait on the sidelines as Sonoma Vice Mayor Valerie Brown and former Vallejo Mayor Terry Curtola battle for the Demo nomination. CALPEEK sources believe Brown has a slight advantage, mainly because Curtola is perceived as being PRO-growth in a district where SLOW growth is favored. In addition, Curtola has had a habit of supporting GOP candidates over Demos. He didn't support Barbara Boxer or Senate Majority Leader Barry Keene. And while Curtola does have backing from U.S. Rep. Vic Fazio and Assembly Majority Leader Tom Hannigan, Brown has won endorsements from Keene, State Sen. Mike Thompson, State Tres. Kathleen Brown and most of the Demo women in the Assembly. CALPEEK rates Brown a slight favorite...

- **22nd C.D.** - UPDATE. This GOP battle between veteran U.S. Rep. Bob Lagomarsino and millionaire challenger Michael Huffington could be a photo finish. The latest hit aimed at Lago comes from the Nat'l Taxpayers Union, which rates the veteran lawmaker as the 2nd biggest GOP spender in the CA delegation. Not a bad hit. And there's a "China - Trade" TV hit also, which is too complex to explain here, but it works. But it's not all one-sided. Lago has hit Huffington with stuff about not paying CA taxes (what Lago doesn't say is that Huffington was living in Texas at the time). However, the better hit/accusation is that Huffington is trying to BUY the 22nd C.D. CALPEEK rates this primary as a toss up, even though incumbency can be powerful...

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● 24th C.D. - UPDATE. CALPEEK sources believe this GOP primary has boiled down to a rather nasty battle between Assemblyman Tom McClintock and businessman Sang Korman, both conservatives. The leading moderate, businessman Jim Solomon, is stuck in 3rd place. The rest of the Republicans are out of it. McClintock probably has a very slight edge with a week to go, but Korman plans to repeatedly hit McClintock on what Korman's team says is the assemblyman's "PRO-Choice" soft spot. Although the lawmaker has publicly said he is PRO-Life, several daily newspapers, including the Thousand Oaks News Chronicle have quoted McClintock saying, "Abortion should be discouraged, but not criminalized." There's no doubt McClintock opposes public funding of abortion, but his statements on abortion are confusing at best. Is Tom trying to hedge his bet? That's what Korman may say in the remaining days of campaigning. CALPEEK still gives a slight edge to McClintock, but Korman could overtake him if this hit on abortion takes hold. Korman has the bucks to deliver the goods...

● 10th A.D. - This could prove to be one of the more exciting Assembly battles in November. This Sacto Co./San Joaquin Co. A.D. has a 47.1% Demo vs. 43.6% GOP registration, meaning it probably tilts GOP, depending on the nominee. On the Demo side, Elk Grove School trustee Kay Albiani is battling SMUD Bd. member Ed Smeloff. Smeloff may be too liberal for the district, which is why CALPEEK sources say the "Demo establishment" is behind Albiani's candidacy. Smeloff won a big endorsement from CARAL (Albiani failed to turn in her questionnaire) and also has backing from the CA League of Conservation Voters (CLCV). He opposes the Auburn Dam, while Albiani is in favor...

...On the GOP side, the frontrunner is probably Sacto Sheriff's Lt. Larry Bowler, who ran against Assemblyman Phil Isenberg in 1988 and narrowly lost. Bowler is the hardline conservative on the GOP side, with backing from the CRA, Gun Owners of CA and with endorsements from ex GOP Assembly Leader Ross Johnson. Bowler's main competition comes from Lodi Mayor Jim Pinkerton Jr., who is a PRO-Choice Republican, and from Sacto businessman Anthony Pescetti. If Pescetti had money, he'd be a very solid competitor. The Demos are hoping for a Bowler

win in June, because recently he was reprimanded on a charge of sexually harassing a female deputy. CALPEEK sources say Republicans are worried, especially if the November race is between Bowler and Albiani...

● 66th A.D. - This OPEN Riverside Co.-northern San Diego Co. A.D. is solid GOP turf. Had he sought reelection, this would have been Dave Kelley's district. There are 7 Republicans in the primary, with two frontrunners: businessman-attorney Ray Haynes and businessman Ed Clayton. Haynes is the PRO-Life hardliner, while Clayton is more moderate. Consultant Byron Wear is doing Haynes' campaign, with Clay Hage as daily mgr., while Russo-Marsh are the consultants for Clayton. Both candidates have done AV programs, but Haynes is getting the benefit of a heavy GOTV effort in the Inland Empire for hardline conservative candidates, such as Bill Dannemeyer and others. On the past several Sundays, hardliner activists have been papering churches with literature and slates. One CALPEEK source described the activity as "major league." CALPEEK has heard that this kind of GOTV effort is taking place in other A.D.s as well. CALPEEK rates Haynes as a very slight favorite, but notes that Clayton has resources to make this a very tight primary...

● 46th C.D. - UPDATE. This is the GOP war between U.S. Rep. Bob Dornan and former Judge Judy Ryan, who is battling to unseat the conservative lawmaker. Ryan will be getting independent expenditure assistance from both NARAL & CARAL (Nat'l Abortion Rights Action League). NARAL is buying a week's worth of 60-sec. radio ads on KABC, KBIG, KFI and KOST-FM for Ryan. On May 20 NARAL Pres. Kate Michelman will venture to Santa Ana for a 6:30 p.m. rally at NARAL & CARAL Campaign HQ, 1220 N. Broadway...

● 53rd A.D. - UPDATE. This So. Bay A.D. in L.A. County is GOP turf. In the GOP primary, sources say this race is developing into a two-way battle between hardline conservative Brad Parton, mayor of Redondo Beach; and Torrance Councilman Dan Walker. Political consultant George Young and Redondo Beach Councilwoman Barbara Doerr are 2nd tier candidates. Polling data also suggests there is a LARGE undecided, meaning Young and Doerr have an outside shot. FYI:

BEST HIT so far has been a Walker mailer telling voters that Parton is attempting to bring his brand of religious fundamentalism to GOP politics. Stay tuned...

U.S. SENATE UPDATE: IT'S DOWN TO THE WIRE.

Editor's note: New polling data released by the L.A. Times and the CA Poll suggest some very tight races for the two U.S. Senate seats up for grabs on June 2. Here is our report & analysis...

- 2-yr. GOP PRIMARY - While appointed U.S. Sen. John Seymour holds a growing lead over his chief rival, U.S. Rep. Bill Dannemeyer (41% to 18% in the CA Poll), one gets the impression that Seymour's campaign is nervous. Why? While Dannemeyer doesn't have money for TV, he's got support from a VERY LARGE group of hardline, religious right volunteers who are now engaged in well organized GOTV efforts in Orange, San Diego, San Bernardino, Riverside and Sacramento Counties. It is for this reason Seymour has now gone with NEGATIVE radio spots aimed at Dannemeyer's 26 overdrafts at the House bank...

- 2-yr. DEMO PRIMARY. Dianne Feinstein holds an impressive lead over Controller Gray Davis (57% to 29% in the LAT poll), but most insiders expect that gap to narrow in the remaining days. Davis has almost been invisible these past several weeks and there was speculation he was going to "roll over" and play nice guy. The Davis camp told CALPEEK such rumors are not correct. The TV and mail will be underway by the time this issue of CALPEEK hits the street. DiFi will match Davis on TV, but she could be in trouble on slates...

- 6-yr. GOP PRIMARY. It's WWII between Bruce Herschensohn and Tom Campbell. New TV and radio ads feature hits flying in all directions. BH will get some indirect help from Dannemeyer's religious right GOTV effort. But the key will be former Palm Springs Mayor Sonny Bono. While BH and Campbell were running just about even the in new polls (33% for Campbell vs. 32% for BH in the CA Poll), Bono continues to draw between 10-13%. That HURTS Campbell...

- 6-yr. DEMO PRIMARY. If you believe the new CA Poll, Boxer is on a roll, leading Lt. Gov. Leo McCarthy and U.S. Rep. Mel Levine. She's got 32%, LMc has 30% and ML

has 23%, with 15% undecided. All three are on the tube, but Levine's got the biggest buy. The question is whether Levine's "Law & Order" strategy will pay off? Another question: how many Demo slates will Boxer be on to offset the huge Berman & D'Agostino slate, which will carry Levine? We'll know next week. Stay tuned...

RECEPTION FOR CALIF. CHANNEL IN SACRAMENTO.

Sacramento Cable, the CA Cable TV Assn., CA State Univ. at Sacto and ARCO will host a reception welcoming the Calif. Channel, the State's version of C-SPAN, to the Sacto market. Reception from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., June 15, Senator Hotel, 1121 "L" St. RSVPs (916)443-3354...

GROUPS SET CALIF. POST-PRIMARY REVIEWS.

Editor's note: A number of groups and organizations have scheduled post-primary reviews. Here's a quick rundown...

- "Involvement '92 - Part II, The Calif. Political Landscape," 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., June 10, LAX Marriott Hotel, L.A. A series of 7 different panels will discuss the primary. Participants include Dr. Alan Heslop of The Rose Inst., Marty Stone (DCCC), Joe Webber (NRCC), attorney Cary Davidson, consultants Joe Shumate and Bill Cavala, and CALPEEK editor Dick Rosengarten. This review is sponsored by the U.S. and CA Chambers of Commerce. For info, Dick Castner (415)348-4011...

- Republican Assoc. of Orange Co., 5:30 p.m., June 4, The Richard Nixon Library in Yorba Linda. Panelists include Orange Co. Sup. Gaddi Vasquez, consultants Bob Nelson and Harvey Englander and pollster Gary Lawrence. For info/RSVPs (714)724-8686...

- L.A. Chamber of Commerce, 12 noon, June 17, Chamber HQ at 404 S. Bixel St. Speaker is CALPEEK editor Dick Rosengarten. For info (213)629-0679...

CLCV ISSUES 1991 LEGISLATIVE VOTING CHART.

Want to know the environmental records of all 120 members of the CA Legislature? The CA League of Conservation Voters (CLCV) has produced a 32-page voting chart based upon votes taken last year. For info (916)448-8894...

LOCAL ELECTIONS '92: CITY-COUNTY ROUNDUP.

Editor's note: Here's another roundup of CITY and COUNTY elections taking place on June 2nd...

- L.A.'s AMENDMENT F - UPDATE. A new poll released by the L.A. Times on May 15 shows that if the election were held now, 61% of voters questioned would be inclined to SUPPORT L.A. City Charter Amendment F, while 17% are opposed. The measure is part of an L.A.P.D. reform package proposed by the Christopher Commission. The same poll showed that L.A.P.D. Chief Daryl Gates has a DISAPPROVAL rating of 81%. About 3 years ago Gates had an APPROVAL rating of 61%. FYI: Demo U.S. Rep. Mel Levine, running for the Cranston U.S. Senate seat, flipped from neutral and now SUPPORTS Yes on F. So do Assemblymembers Burt Margolin and Terry Friedman. Levine changed his position on the day this poll was released...

...The NO on F campaign has unveiled its first two 30-sec. TV ads, but several local stations have refused to air one of the spots because of its racial overtones. The one ad has a concluding 3-seconds showing the videotaped beating of white trucker Reginald Denny by 4 blacks. Some sources call this ad, "Son of Willie Horton." Because some TV stations refused to air the ad, the controversial ending has been cut. The spot was produced for the L.A. Police Protective League, which is opposed to Measure F. The spot was produced for the LAPPL by Austin-Sheinkopf...

- SAN DIEGO MAYOR'S RACE - UPDATE. As of May 20, few voters in CA's 2nd largest city have really begun to focus on this contest to replace outgoing Mayor Maureen O'Connor. San Diego Co. Sup. Susan Golding continues to lead, but CALPEEK sources note there are HUGE numbers of undecided voters. Tom Carter, back in the pack in 4th place, has now IDed himself on signs & billboards as the ONLY DEMO in this non-partisan race. Carter, like rivals Peter Navarro and Councilman Ron Roberts, are all pushing for a 2nd place finish. CALPEEK sources say Roberts has for the most part stopped bashing Golding and is focusing on Navarro, who currently holds 2nd place. Tight money adds to the problems for ALL candidates...

- SAN JOSE BALLPARK - UPDATE. Measure G on San Jose City's June 2nd ballot is still

a touch and go proposition. If approved by voters, the city's UTILITY TAX would be hiked to pay for the new baseball stadium to house the Nat'l League's Giants, who now play ball at Candlestick Park. The YES on G team recently completed a voter registration drive which netted 16,000 new voters, of which 13,000 signed up for ABSENTEE BALLOTS. Another 14,000 voters in the area have been targeted as potential AV voters. The contest is regarded as very close, with the NO side probably a few points ahead going into the final week. FYI: Standard & Poor's Rating Group issued a statement May 18th saying approval of Measure G could bring "significant direct economic and intangible benefits to San Jose." The S&P report also noted that the proposed stadium, (\$185 million estimated) would NOT unduly burden the City's finances...

- L.A. COUNTY SUPES - Before the L.A. Riots, most insiders would probably agree that State Sen. Diane E. Watson's campaign for 2nd district supe was stalled and going nowhere. But during the riot Ms. DEW was all over the tube. Her non-stop activity revived this lack-luster campaign. BUT new polling data by Decision Research for Ms. DEW's chief rival, former Congresswoman Yvonne Burke, shows Burke with 28%, DEW at 24%, others at 7% and a large 41% undecided. Black voters are split 39% each, but among white voters Burke has a 33% to 27% edge. The poll was taken May 12-13 among 354 voters in the 2nd District. In a 2-way battle, Burke wins with 35.2% compared to 31.8% for DEW, with a large 33% undecided. Stay tuned...

NEW JOBS, ADDRESSES AND PERSONNEL NOTES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

- Gov. Pete Wilson has appointed Visalia Mayor Berkley R. Johnson as 3rd District Sup. in Tulare Co. He replaces Delores Mangine, who joined the Wilson Admin...

- Name change: Townsend & Company is NOW Townsend, Hermocillo, Raimundo & Usher. Same Sacto address and phone number for this PR/PA/campaign mgt. firm. Very slick brochure on name change...

- Kevin Eckery has been appointed deputy secretary of PA for the State & Consumer Services Agency. Eckery had his own PR firm prior to this appointment...